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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/827,290	04/05/2001	Daniel C. Berg	RSW920000173US1	5722

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EXAMINER
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PHAM, CHRYSTINE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2192

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/827,290	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BERG ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Chrystine Pham	<b>Art Unit</b> 2192	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,7,10,11,14 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,7,10,11,14 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the Amendments filed on September 10<sup>th</sup> 2005.  
Claims 1, 5, 7, 10, 11, 14, 18 have been amended. Claims 1, 5-7, 10, 11, 14-18 are pending.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Rubin and other art of record, at least, does not teach “**programmatically determining ... whether the association end to be modified has a single multiplicity or a many multiplicity**”, in such manners as cited in independent claims 1, 7, and 11.

3. Claims 1, 7, and 11 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

5. Claims 1, 5-7, 10, 11, 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject

matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

#### Claim 1

Claim recites “adding the requested *association end* from the instance of the **second** class to the instance of the **first** class” (lines 19-20)(Emphasis added). However, claim 1 also recites “a request to modify an existing *association end* of a bi-directional link to reflect an association from an instance of a **first** class to an instance of a **second** class” (lines 3-5)(Emphasis added). Apparently, the *association end* [from the instance of the second class to the instance of the first class] cited in lines 19-20 contradicts with an existing *association end* [from an instance of a first class to an instance of a second class] previously established in lines 3-5. The step of “first adding the requested *association end* from the instance of the second class to the instance of the first class” recited in lines 19-20 contradicts with the disclosure and the drawings (see FIG.6 and FIG.8) for the following reasons:

First, the association end (line 19) is established in line 17 as having a many multiplicity. The limitation of line 17 is disclosed in FIG.8, (i.e., adding Employee “Jane Doe” to the “Clothing” Department). Thus, the association end, which has the many multiplicity, to be modified reflects an association from an instance of a first class to an instance of a second class. Using FIG.8 as an example, the association end, which has the many multiplicity is the Employee end reflecting an association pointing from

**Department Clothing** (instance of first class) to **Employee Jane** (instance of second class). Step 810 of FIG.8 teaches modifying an association end which has a many multiplicity by first adding Jane Doe to the list of employees for the Clothing department, that is to say, adding the requested association end to reflect an association from an instance of a **first** class (i.e., Clothing Department) to an instance of a second class (i.e., Employee Jane). However, this is contradicted by the new limitation cited in line 19, i.e., “first adding the requested association end from the instance of the **second** class to the instance of the first class. This limitation should be amended to read “first adding the requested association end from the instance of the first class to the instance of the second class”.

Similarly, claim 1 also recites “then setting an inverse association end of the association to reflect an inverse association from the instance of the first class to the instance of the second class” (lines 23-24). This new limitation also contradicts with FIG.8 and the disclosure since the association of line 23 has been established as “from an instance of a first class to an instance of a second class” (lines 4-5). Thus, the inverse association of the association should be “from the instance of the second class to the instance of the first class” as previously presented in claim 1 and not “from the instance of the first class to the instance of the second class” as currently amended.

Claims 7, 11

Claims recite the same limitations, which have been addressed in claim 1, therefore, are rejected for the same reasons as cited in claim 1.

Claims 5-6, 10, 14-18

Claims are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as claims depending on rejected base claims 1, 7, and 11.

### ***Conclusion***

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chrystine Pham whose telephone number is 571-272-3702. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CP  
November 27, 2005



**TUAN DAM**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**